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improve the quality of life for all San Diegans*

NEWS RELEASE

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Faulconer Announces Alternative for Methane Gas Recycling Project

SAN DIEGO: Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer, San Diego Gas & Electric and BioFuels Energy are pursuing alternatives to transferring excess methane gas from the Point Loma Wastewater Treatment Plant.

After meeting with Faulconer and his staff, SDG&E and BioFuels agreed to explore the use of SDG&E's existing fuel lines to transfer methane from the treatment plant.

"I've been a proponent of this project because of its environmental benefits, and I've always believed there was a better way to transport the gas," Faulconer said. "I'm obviously very pleased to be leading the evaluation of a mutually beneficial solution, one that's good for the environment and the City without impacting Point Loma residents."

Faulconer has worked toward this solution for weeks with numerous Point Loma residents, as well as city staff and administrators with SDG&E, BioFuels and the wastewater treatment plant.

"We applaud Mr. Faulconer's approach to finding a new alternative solution, which endorses not only the green attributes of the excess methane utilization, but also embraces the safety and quality of life issues here on Point Loma," homeowner John Pedersen said.

The original plan called for using tube trucks to haul compressed natural gas – 85 percent methane and 15 percent carbon dioxide – from the treatment plant to two local sites, where it would be used to supply ultra clean fuel cells that will generate renewable electricity.

Faulconer and his council colleagues supported the project, the first of its kind in California, because it was expected to eliminate the release of 1.1 million cubic feet of global warming gases each day, produce renewable electricity and generate revenue for the City.

SDG&E has preliminary determined its fuel lines can accept the methane. Once the analysis is complete, a process expected to take about three weeks, a proposal will be sent to the City.

"I'm committed to finding something that works for our residents, the environment and the City," said Faulconer, who plans to announce these developments at a community meeting Wednesday night in Point Loma. The 7 p.m. meeting is being held at the Point Loma Library at 3701 Voltaire St.